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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :
BERND BRUCHMANN, ET AL. : EXAMINER: SERGENT, R. A.
SERIAL NO: 08/894,156 :
FILED: AUGUST 15, 1997 : GROUP ART UNIT: 1711
FOR: PREPARATION OF BIURET- :
CONTAINING POLYISOCYANATES :

REPLY BRIEF

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

This Reply Brief is in reply to the Examiner's Answer dated May 19, 2004 (Answer).

At the outset, Appellants confirm all the arguments made in the Appeal Brief, most of which have not even been responded to in the Answer.

The Examiner finds that one of ordinary skill in the art "would have been motivated to utilize the nitrogen-containing biuretizing agents of [Wagner et al and Hennig et al] **in place of** the amine component of [Möhring et al], because one would have reasonably expected the nitrogen compounds of [Möhring et al] and [Wagner et al and Hennig et al] to function as equivalents, in view of the teachings within [Wagner et al and Hennig et al]" (Answer at 4, emphasis added).

In reply, Möhring et al specifically require the presence of alcohol and amine, and optionally water, as the biuretizing agent therein. While Wagner et al and Hennig et al may disclose various nitrogen-containing compounds as biuretizing agents, it is only with the present disclosure as a guide that one skilled in the art would regard such nitrogen-containing